



Judicial Discipline & Disability Commission

JUDGE RICE VAN AUSSALL
CHAIRMAN

323 Center Street • Suite 1060
Little Rock, AR 72201
(501) 682-1050 • Fax (501) 682-1049

JAMES A. BADAM
Executive Director

May 21, 1997

Honorable William McKimm
Municipal Judge
P.O. Box 558
Mount Ida, Arkansas 71957

RE: Case # 95-260

CORRECTED COPY

Dear Judge McKimm,

In its May 16, 1997 meeting, the Judicial Discipline & Disability Commission imposed an informal adjustment and dismissed complaint number 95-260. In that complaint it was alleged you violated the Arkansas Code of Judicial Conduct.

The Commission considered the facts and circumstances surrounding the allegation, your testimony, documents, and other evidence before the Commission. Applying this material to the Code of Judicial Conduct, the Commission found that there had been conduct that might be cause for discipline but for which an informal adjustment is appropriate.

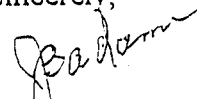
The Commission found that you presided at the trial entitled Walker vs. Standridge on August 9, 1994 in the Mount Ida Municipal Court. As of May 16, 1997, you had not issued a decision in that case. Prior to the trial, in your attorney capacity, you discussed part of the case with Mr. Gail Walker. You suggested that under the facts he presented he could file a lawsuit in the small claims court. You then presided at that trial.

The Commission found that there appeared to be a possible violation of the Code of Judicial Conduct with regard to the promptness of your decision. The Commission accepted your representation that steps have been taken to avoid this type of delay in the future.

With respect to the possible claim of a conflict of interest, the Commission dismissed this matter and found that under the circumstances there was not a conflict of interest, nor an appearance of an impropriety. However, a suggestion was made to you as how to proceed in the Walker vs. Standridge case.

The Commission has instructed me to give you notice that the above noted complaint has been dismissed and an informal adjustment imposed. This Commission action is public information.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Badami", written over the printed name.

James A. Badami
Executive Director

cc: Gail Walker